

Inspection Report

Subject: WOODFORD COUNTY -Fehr Brothers Swine Farm
(Minonk) Minonk Facility (formerly Neisler Facility)
CAFO Inspection

To: DWPC/FOS & RU

From: Eric O. Ackerman DWPC-FOS, Peoria Region

Date: April 26, 2013

On the above Star Loftus and I conducted an inspection of the Minonk Facility of Fehr Brothers Swine Farm. [This swine operation was previously identified as the Neisler Facility.] Conservation Police Officer Isaac Gerard of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources accompanied us, as well as Mr. Kenneth Fehr and Todd Fehr. Figure 1 and photographs of the area are attached to this report as well as a CAFO checklist. The following paragraphs report details of the field visit. (For additional information see previous inspection reports dated February 24, 2011 and November 8, 2011.)

Facility Location

The Minonk Swine Facility is located about 4 miles southeast of Minonk, along County Road 2900 E. It is situated in the northeast corner of Woodford County. The legal description for this swine operation is in the NW ¼, Section 34, T28N, R2E (Minonk Township) in Woodford County. This swine operation is located in the watershed of Panther Creek, tributary to the Mackinaw River. (Stream Code DKK: Panther Creek/Mackinaw River/Illinois River.)

Facility Description

This facility is utilized as a wean-to-finish total confinement swine operation. There are 7 swine confinement buildings at the site as identified in Figure 1. The condition of the buildings varies with limited demolition underway on at least one structure. Current swine population and building capacities are provided in the attached CAFO checklist.

No Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) was on-site. It is reportedly kept at the office of the Home Place (sow farm) near Eureka. The CNMP was not examined on the above date.

Proposed Future Modifications

As seen in the photographs, swine confinement building #6 (far west building) has been partially demolished. Only the concrete floor and manure pit remain in place. Swine building # 5 is empty and will also reportedly be demolished. Mr. Fehr indicated that the farm intends to construct a new swine confinement building in the general footprint of existing buildings #5 and #6. This proposed new swine confinement building will be approximately 100 feet wide x 200 feet long. It will include a total manure storage pit approximately 10 feet deep beneath the building. The representatives indicated that they hoped to begin construction on the new building this spring.

Swine Waste Lagoon

The swine waste lagoon was examined on the above date. This impoundment contained an estimated 3 ½ feet of freeboard at the time of the inspection. I observed significant erosion on the inner slope of the earthen berms. The top of the berm is very narrow and does not allow for safe access and maintenance. Inner and outer berm slopes are too steep and have not been modified to meet appropriate slopes.

As seen in the photographs, the freeboard marker in this lagoon is delineated in tenths of feet and not inches. Also, the freeboard marker does not extend an adequate vertical distance within the lagoon to allow for appropriate freeboard monitoring and reporting. A discussion regarding an appropriate freeboard marker ensued.

Irrigation Unit/Manure Application

The center pivot irrigation unit is located on the north side of the swine waste lagoon as shown in Figure 1. According to the representatives this irrigation unit has not been used since 2011. A portable generator is required to make the unit operational.

Liquid wastewater was last removed from the swine waste lagoon in late November of 2012. The lagoon liquid was applied to cropland at that time using the dragline system.

This report is submitted for your information.


Eric O. Ackerman

Att: -Figure 1
-Photographs
-CAFO checklist

cc: -Joey Logan-Wilkey, DLC
-Bud Bridgewater, BOW
-Peoria Files

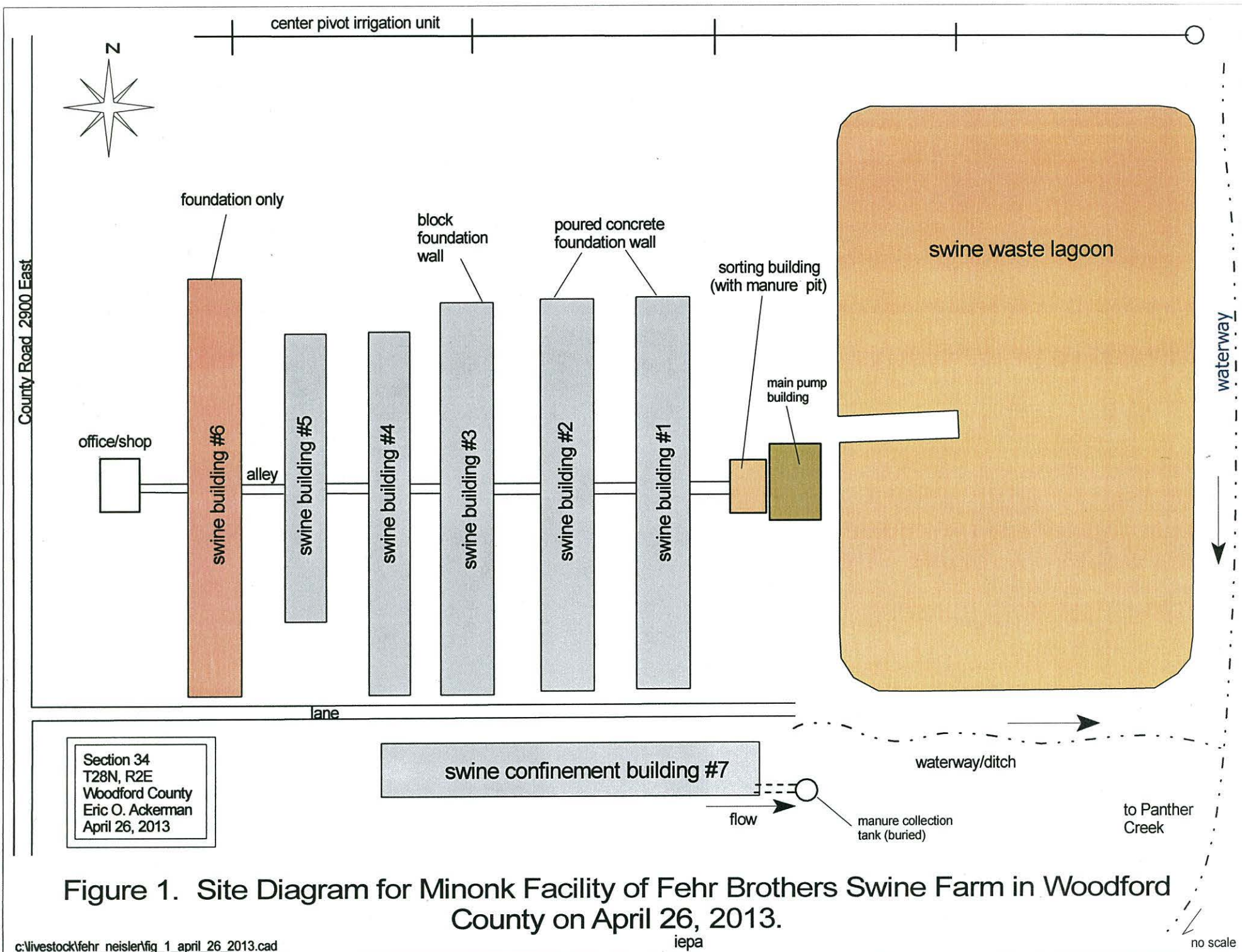


Figure 1. Site Diagram for Minonk Facility of Fehr Brothers Swine Farm in Woodford County on April 26, 2013.



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Livestock Facility Inspection Checklist

GENERAL INFORMATION									
TYPE OF INSPECTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAFO <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT <input type="checkbox"/> RECONNAISSANCE <input type="checkbox"/> ERU FOLLOW UP <input type="checkbox"/> OPERATOR REQUEST <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER									
FACILITY NAME (LLC, Inc, Corp, Partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.) Fehr Brothers Swine Farm – Minonk Facility (formerly Neisler)					INSPECTION DATE April 26, 2013		ARRIVAL TIME ~9:45 am		DEPARTURE TIME ~10:15 am
ADDRESS County Road 2900 E					LATITUDE (Decimal) 40.849		LONGITUDE (Decimal) -88.986		GPS Measured <input type="checkbox"/> Google Earth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CITY Minonk			STATE IL	ZIP CODE 61760	INSPECTOR(S) S. Loftus & E. Ackerman		ACCOMPANIED BY (if applicable) Isaac Gerard, IDNR/CPO Ken Fehr & Todd Fehr		
COUNTY Woodford		SECTION 34	TOWNSHIP T28N	RANGE R2E	POLITICAL TOWNSHIP Minonk		TEMP. ~57°F		PRECIP. TYPE/AMT LAST 24 HR Sunny at time of inspection
Facility Owner(s): <small>Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)</small>		NAME Kenneth Fehr			CONTACTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		PHONE Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)		MOBILE Exemption 7(C)
		ADDRESS Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)			CITY Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)		STATE Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)		ZIP CODE Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)
		NAME			CONTACTED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		PHONE		MOBILE
		ADDRESS			CITY		STATE		ZIP CODE
Facility Operator(s): <small>Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)</small>		NAME			CONTACTED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		PHONE		MOBILE
		ADDRESS			CITY		STATE		ZIP CODE
		NAME			CONTACTED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		PHONE		MOBILE
		ADDRESS			CITY		STATE		ZIP CODE
NPDES PERMIT INFORMATION (If no NPDES Permit, skip this section)									
1. What type of NPDES permit has been issued? <input type="checkbox"/> No NPDES Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Individual NPDES Permit <input type="checkbox"/> General NPDES Permit							NPDES #		
2. What date was the NPDES permit issued?									
3. What date does the NPDES permit expire?									
4. Is a copy of the NPDES permit on site?								<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
5. Permitted number of animals (number & species)?									
6. Does the NPDES Permit contain a compliance schedule?								<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
7. Have there been any changes made to the production area since the permit was issued?								<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
If "YES", provide a description of those changes.									

LAND APPLICATION/NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

1. How many TOTAL acres are available for land application? _____ acres		
2. How many acres are READILY available for land application at the time of inspection? _____ acres		
3. Estimated annual quantities of liquid waste _____ gallons (CNMP not on-site.)		
4. Estimated annual quantities of solid waste _____ tons (CNMP not examined on above date.)		
5. Does the facility have a contractor perform land application? If "YES", Name of contractor: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
6. What type of land application equipment is available to the facility? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Umbilical Injection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tankwagon Injection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tankwagon Surface <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irrigation <input type="checkbox"/> Rotational Gun <input type="checkbox"/> Manure Spreader <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetative Filter <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		

LIVESTOCK FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Type of Animals	Number of Animals (currently)	Animal Capacity	Type of Confinement	Number of Structures
SWINE > 55 lbs.	0	1000	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #1	See Fig. 1
SWINE > 55 lbs.	1000	1000	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #2	
SWINE > 55 lbs.	0	~700	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #3	
SWINE < 55 lbs. Nursery 2	~500	1800	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #4	
SWINE < 55 lbs. Nursery	0	??	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #5	
SWINE > 55 lbs.	0	0	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #6	
SWINE > 55 lbs.	1100	1100	TOTAL CONFINEMENT BLDG #7	See Fig. 1

Does the facility have an Illinois Certified Livestock Manager (300 or greater animal units)?	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
If greater than 100 animal units but less than 5000 animal units, does the facility have a waste management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
If greater than 5000 animal units, has the facility submitted a waste management plan to IDOA for review?	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does the facility have any other locations under common ownership, or where equipment and/or manure are shared, or where the other site shares land application sites? If so, put names and addresses below. Fehr Brothers Swine Farm operates multiple swine confinement facilities in Woodford County. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <small>Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)</small> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> (sow farm) -Panola Facility (formerly Red Finisher) </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <small>Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)</small> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> -Schmidgall Sow Farm </div> </div>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

1. Does the facility have any existing livestock waste containment system? If "NO", proceed to question 10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
2. General description of the waste containment system (include solid and liquid manure handling, mortality, and feed storage areas.) This facility is an older type, total confinement swine operation with numerous swine buildings. The buildings are equipped with shallow pits of various depth reportedly ranging from ~18 inches to ~ 5 feet. Swine waste is managed in a liquid form with pull plugs in the pits. Swine manure drains from most pits to a 14 foot deep collection pit. A PTO driven pump is brought to the pit and swine waste is pumped from this collection pit into a large, single cell anaerobic lagoon. Swine waste from a stand-alone confinement building drains to a buried tank. The contents of this tank must also be pumped into the lagoon with a PTO driven pump. Mortalities are transferred to the Panola Facility and collected by a rendering company.		

Type of Storage	Total Storage Capacity (Specify Units)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anaerobic Lagoon	Actual capacity not determined
<input type="checkbox"/> Covered Lagoon	
<input type="checkbox"/> Holding Pond	
<input type="checkbox"/> Above Ground Storage Tank ("Slurrystore")	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Below Ground Storage Tank	Reported as 14 foot deep pit
<input type="checkbox"/> Settling Basin	
<input type="checkbox"/> Roofed Storage Shed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Pad	
<input type="checkbox"/> Impervious Soil Pad	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Under floor Pits	Manure pits of various depth (~18 inches – 5 feet)
<input type="checkbox"/> Anaerobic Digester	
<input type="checkbox"/> Manure Stacks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetative Filter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> None	

MORTALITIES MANAGEMENT

1. How are mortalities managed? <input type="checkbox"/> Composted <input type="checkbox"/> Buried <input type="checkbox"/> Burned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rendering Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
2. Are mortalities documented? If "YES", are records kept?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> NO

FACILITY WATER SOURCES

1. What type of method is used to provide drinking water for the animals? <input type="checkbox"/> Overflow waters <input type="checkbox"/> Tip Tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Nipple waters <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bowls <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
2. How is the water for animals obtained? <input type="checkbox"/> Community PWS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Site Well <input type="checkbox"/> On-Site Impoundment <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

RECEIVING SURFACE WATERS

1. Provide a description of the flow path from the facility to the nearest named surface water.
Tributary to Panther Creek (See previous reports 2/24/2011 and 11/8/2011)

2. What is the name of the receiving stream?

BIOSECURITY - Inspection Activities

1. Were biosecurity measures followed? ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

2. Has there been 24-hours downtime between inspections for all IEPA personnel present? ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

BIOSECURITY - Personal Protection Equipment

3. Was sanitary footwear donned prior to entering the livestock management/waste handling facility(s)? ☐ N/A Did not Enter ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

4. Were disposable coveralls donned prior to entering the livestock management/waste handling facility(s)? ☐ N/A Did not Enter ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

5. Was sanitary footwear used during the inspection? ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

6. Was disposable sanitary outerwear disposed at the facility? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

OTHER COMMENTS/NOTES

Check all attachments: ☐ Narrative ☐ Photos ☐ Site Plan ☐ Sample Results

INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE**REPORT DATE**

Eric Ackerman

April 26, 2013

cc: BOW/DWPC/RU

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Revised July 2013

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013
(IEPA)



Photograph #1. The condition of the western most swine building is shown. View is northwest.



Photograph #2. The interior of a swine confinement building is shown.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013



Photograph #3. Interior of a swine confinement building is shown. A tip tank for gutter flush in background.



Photograph #4. The interior of a swine confinement building is shown.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013

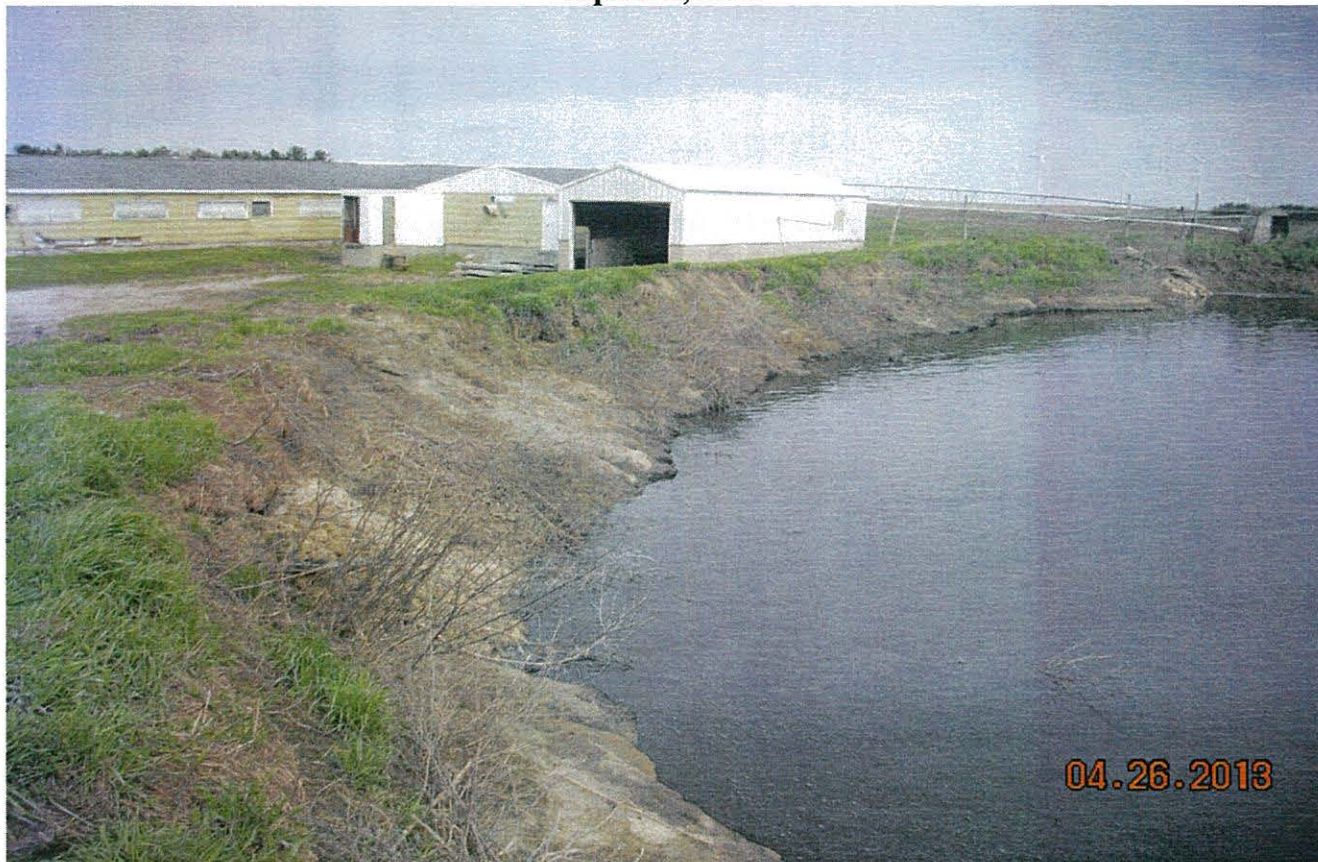


Photograph #5. The interior of a swine confinement building is shown.



Photograph #6. The exterior block foundation wall of a swine confinement building is shown. View is north.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013

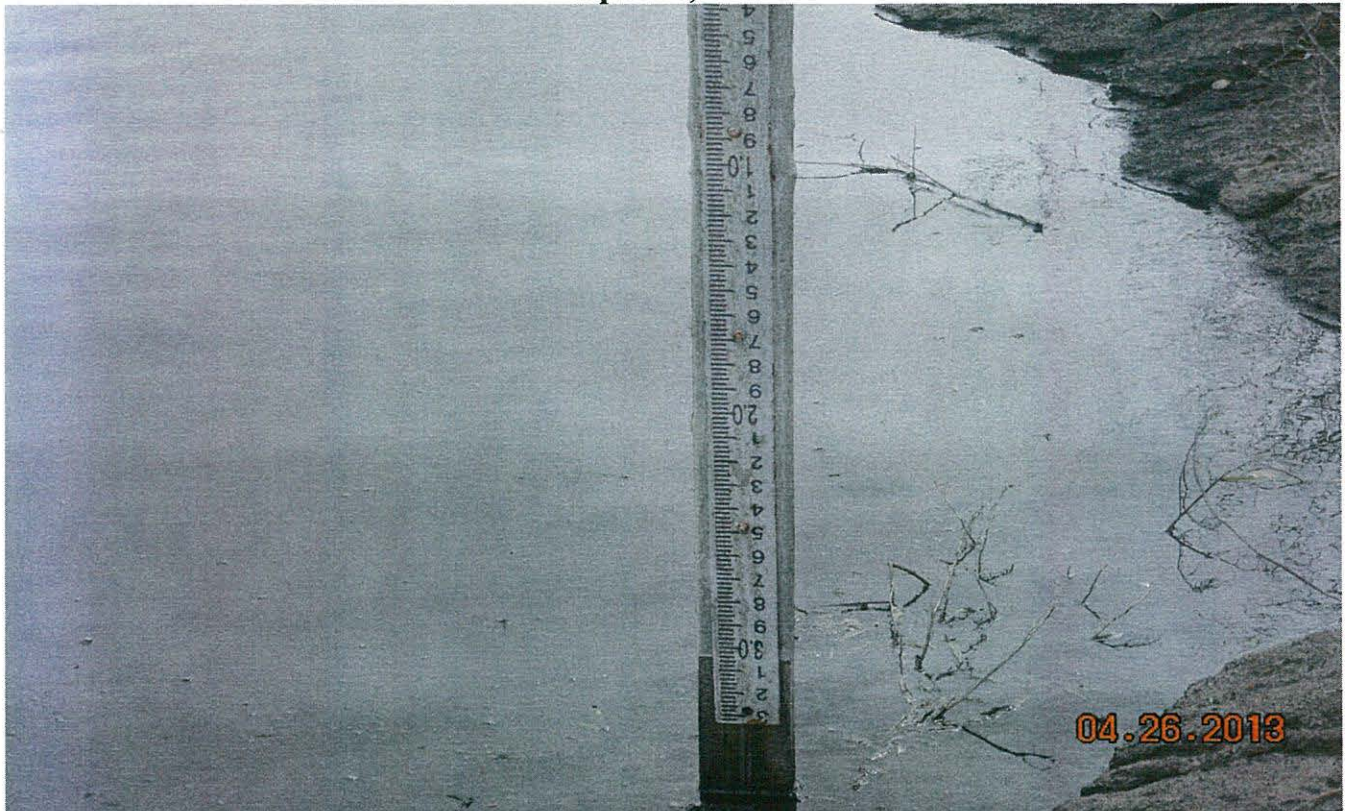


Photograph #7. The southwest corner of the swine waste lagoon is shown. View is northwest.



Photograph #8. A freeboard marker is seen in the southwest corner of the swine waste lagoon. View is east.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
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April 26, 2013



Photograph #9. A freeboard marker is seen in the swine waste lagoon.



Photograph #10. The interior slope for a portion of the earthen berm of the swine waste lagoon is shown.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013



Photograph #11. The southeast corner of the swine waste lagoon is shown. View is east.

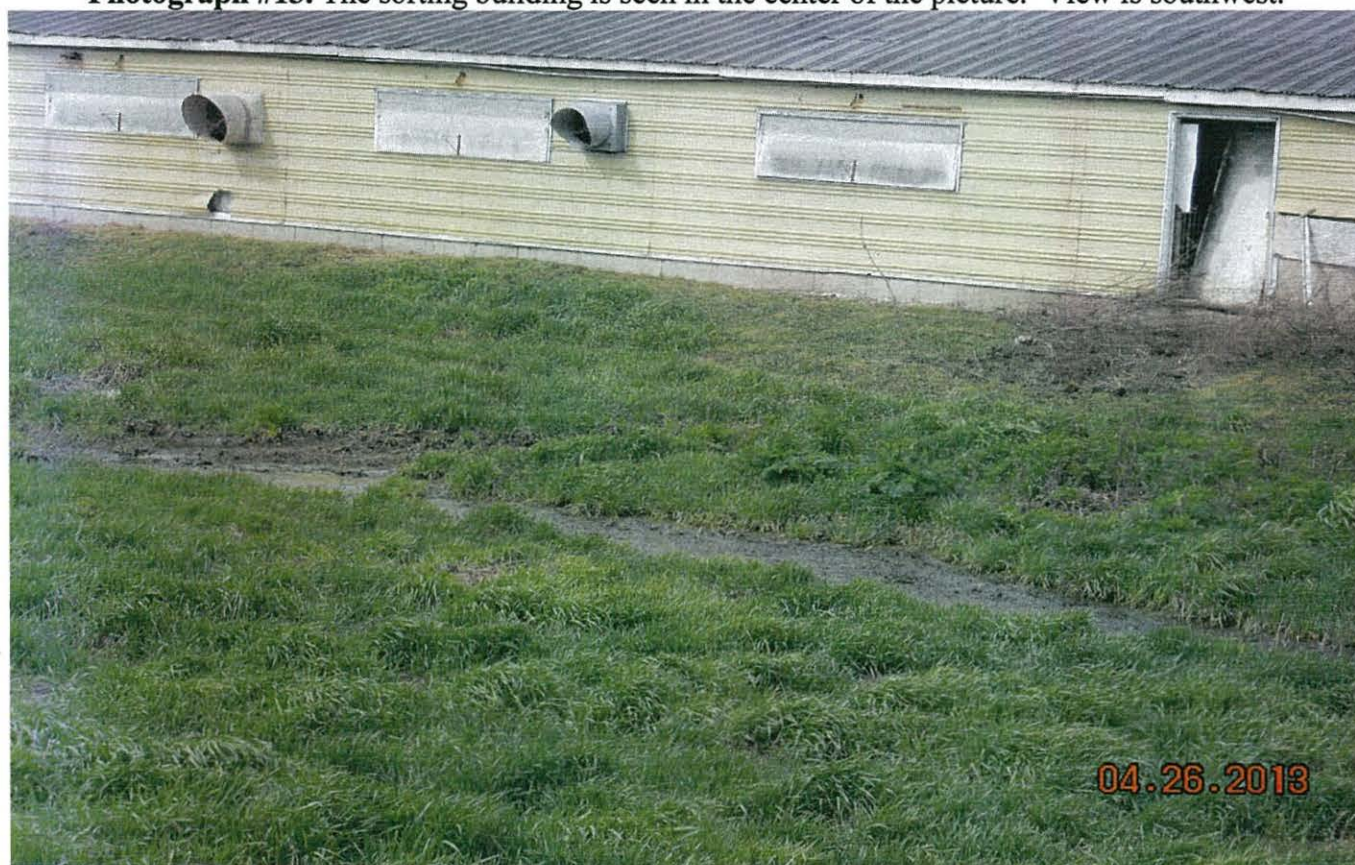


Photograph #12. The east berm of the swine waste lagoon is seen. View is north.

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Woodford County
April 26, 2013

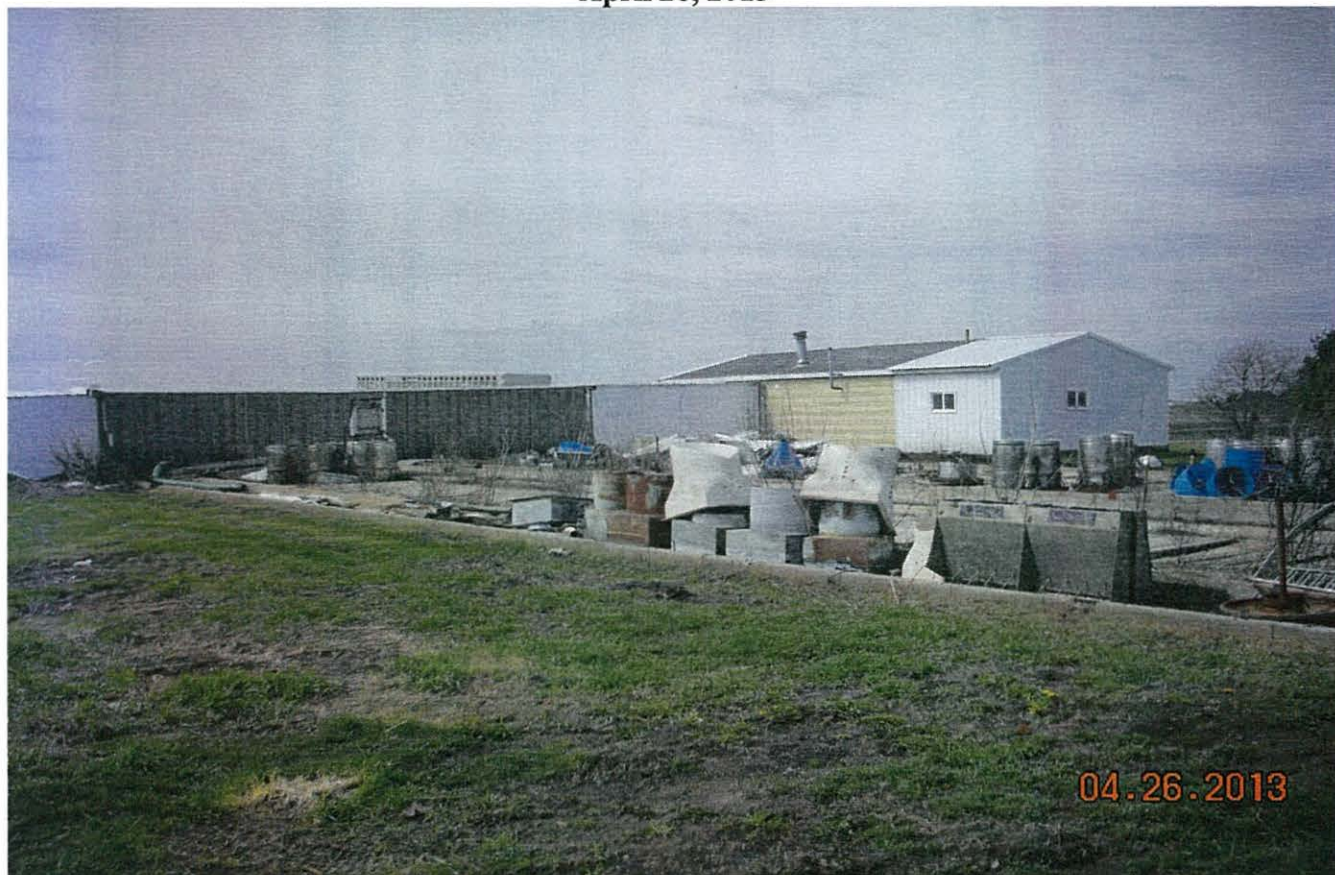


Photograph #13. The sorting building is seen in the center of the picture. View is southwest.

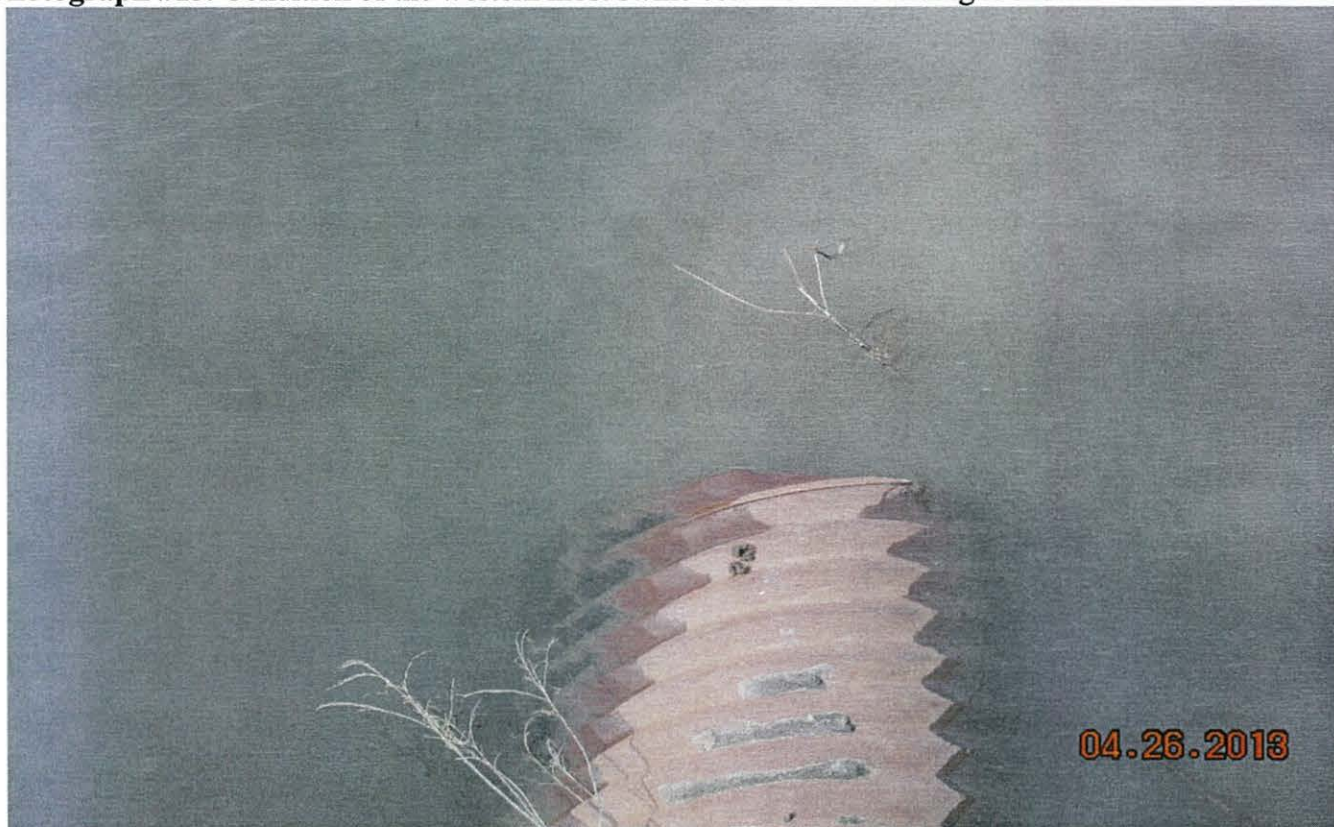


Photograph #14. A portion of a swine confinement building is shown. View is west.

Fehr Brothers Swine Farm - Minonk Facility
Woodford County
April 26, 2013



Photograph #15. Condition of the western most swine confinement building is shown. View is southwest.



Photograph #16. Tile discharge is shown into an unnamed tributary to Panther Creek.